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BATTLE BREWING MOOSEHEADS OWNER WOULD FIGHT AGAINST FIGHTING BAN (page 22)



INTIMATE THEATRE THIS LOVE IS FORBIDDEN

{page 6



Wednesday, February 29, 2012 www.metronews.ca



News worth sharing.









Council says no to counteroffer

Workers likely won't re-vote on city's final offer ◆ Wage hikes on table higher than those in provincial, federal public sectors: Mayor



The spark of hope of ending the transit strike was extinguished — again — on Tuesday.

Halifax regional council "flatly rejected" the union's counteroffer after about an hour and a half of debate in private.

half of debate in private.

"Basically on cost," Mayor
Peter Kelly told reporters Tuesday. "It would cost the taxpayers
\$7 million more than what we had proposed."

The five-year wage package offered by the Amalgamated Transit Union Local 508 was worth \$19 million, where Metro Transit is looking at \$14 million. That, plus their differences in efficiencies equals \$7.7 million, HRM says.

"There is no more money, folks," Kelly said. "That's the issue that council wants to make very clear — there is no more money

YOUR DOWNTOWN ALTERNATIVE

to give. We gave every step along the way and we can't give any more."

Eddie Robar, director of Metro Transit, said while the union's proposal to adjust scheduling to avoid the extra shifts is thinking outside the box, it's still too unpredictable.

"What the union is offering is a solution that is not done anywhere else in the world," Robar said. "We have no predictability of what that would look like."

Metro Transit is leaving its final offer—the same one union members voted down by 78 per cent on Feb. 24— on the table until 11:59 p.m. Friday.

And if they reject it again, what then?

"Basically, we're back to square one," Kelly said.

Shane O'Leary, ATU vice-president, said he was hardly surprised.

It seems unlikely at this point the union will have a change of



"We have offered the final offer."

MAYOR PETER KELLY

heart towards Metro Transit's previous offer since it has already been rejected it once.

"I imagine that offer would actually raise the percentage of people who don't want it," O'Leary said. "Even some of the people who voted for it in the first place are going to realize how antagonistic the city is being towards us."

Hoping love will blossom

The show, which will air in the fall, will feature 25 women trying to win the heart of one man. Story, page 4.

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Proposal for sidewalk tax 'missing details'

As one councillor put it, the proposal for changes to sidewalk taxes is "halfbaked."

Staff is proposing changing how sidewalks are taxed. The idea is to take sidewalk taxes for regional roads out the local improvement charge (LIC) and include them in the general tax rate.

Mayor Peter Kelly asked Bruce Fisher, manager of finance, to explain during Tuesday's council meeting the difference in costs to the taxpayers by changing the system. Fisher couldn't give him an answer.

"We're asking for the direction if you want to replace the LIC (local improvement charge) system or a sidewalk tax," Fisher said. "We do not know the net outcome to the taxpayers but we do not believe it will be significant."

Several councillors said there are a lot of details missing from the proposal.

"I think there's doubt if the picture's not defined. I think it would help if we knew the communities we're talking about," said Coun. Reg Rankin.

JENNIFER TAPLIN



"To me this smacks of back-door tax reform."

COUN. JACKIE BARKHOUSE

Split up HRM: Poll

A majority of people continue to support splitting up HRM into a rural and urban area, a new survey suggests. The Corporate Research Associates poll released Tuesday says 48 per cent are in favour of the division, while 39 per cent want to keep HRM as it is now. CRA has done 21 polls on this question since 2005, with those in favour of dividing HRM up into two districts always coming on top. • METRO



Snowman shows support on picket line

The four-week-old transit strike has no end in sight after HRM council rejected the Amalgamated Transit Union's latest counter-offer on Tuesday.

YMCA development on track

◆ The 6,500-square-metre recreation facility would be a 'significant benefit': HRM staff ◆ First reading on amendments needed passed unanimously



Another tall development looking for an exemption to HRMbyDesign is moving ahead.

The YMCA is planning a 46-metre development with twin residential towers and a recreation complex on the corner of Sackville and South Park Streets.

It would take over the current YMCA building and also the CBC building on the corner — across the street from the Public Gardens. Height restrictions there are 23 metres.

With a few clarifications, but no debate, Halifax regional council voted on Tuesday to move on to the second reading for amendments to planning documents and bylaws the development requires, and to schedule a public hearing

Staff is recommending the development under Policy 89, which offers exemptions for projects that offer economic, social or cultural benefits.

It's the same policy council used to proceed with Skye Halifax, a 150metre-tall development, last week.

In an interview outside

council chambers Tuesday, Coun. Dawn Sloane said the YMCA project does have significant public value, but council needs to get its act together.

"I think we'll hear from developers in future that they're probably going to stop developing in the downtown because of the uncertainty of HRMbyDesign," Sloane said. "I'm very concerned with these developers who are saying to me, 'I don't feel too certain about things, so I'm not going to build."

Richard Harvey, senior planner, recommended the development and said it won't significantly cast "It certainly would relieve the pressure on the municipality to provide that kind of service (downtown)."

BETTY LOU KILLEN, HRM
COMMUNITY PLANNING

shadows on the Public Gardens or cause a "wall effect" around the Citadel.

"There is merit in taller buildings (on) the corner of two important streets," he said, adding it would be a gateway to downtown.

Review to help downtown development

Right now developers are faced with a multitude of rules and policies — many conflicting — when they want to build downtown.

Andy Fillmore, HRM project manager, told council Tuesday the Regional Plan Five Year Review (RP5+) and Centre Plan Phase One will change that.

He said the inconsistencies in height regula-

tions, parking requirements, etc. are stifling development. Plus those policies are hopelessly outdated.

"We can do much better," he said.

"The job of protecting neighbourhood identity would be difficult (with today's policies)."

Fillmore added it will also help the municipality deal with the growth effects of the shipbuilding and off-shore exploration contracts.

The first public-input session for RP5+ is Thursday and the plan is expected to be completed by 2015.

But until then, Fillmore said, HRM staff will focus first on development hotspots.

And, until the plan is finished, developers will be able to choose to continue under current poli-

Info session

The first public-information session takes place
Thursday at the Lord Nelson Hotel's Imperial Ballroom. There's a reception at 6:30 p.m. followed by a presentation at 7 p.m.

cies or under the new one as it matures.

JENNIFER TAPLIN





An upcoming Lady Gaga visit is spurring pressure on Harvard to confer posthumou degrees on students expelled for being gay or perceived as gay. Scan code for story.

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Every four years, the universe plays a game of catch-up by adding a bonus day. Leap years explained at metronews.ca/ video



'I do believe in falling in love'

◆ Halifax women audition for The Bachelor Canada ◆ Cross-country contestant search yields 25 openings

At 23, Lauren MacDormand is already somewhat jaded towards love.

The Halifax resident has had a couple of serious relationships, but neither worked out — something she ascribes to having not been with The One.

"I've always been a hopeless romantic but I'm starting to get a pessimistic feel for it," she says with a smile but also a touch of hesitation about being so open about her dating history.

"I do believe in falling in love and all the corny stuff that a lot of people are really pessimistic towards," she adds. "I don't want to turn into that."

So MacDormand put herself out there on Tuesday. The St. Francis Xavier University grad was one of several dozen Halifax women to audition for The Bachelor Canada, a reality show airing this fall on Citytwhere — like the hit version in the United States —

"I do think it's sincere. You have to believe that."

ANGIE SMITH ON THE FORMAT
OF THE BACHELOR CANADA

women will try to sweep one man off his feet in the search for love.

The auditions took place over an eight-hour period at the Halifax Marriott Harbourfront Hotel, with each woman getting face-to-face time with the show's producers.

"Why not. I've tried everything else. Nothing seems to work." Angie Smith, 32, says of why she flew from St. John's to tryout.

Smith works as a financial-support officer with the Newfoundland and Labrador government. Sporting beige high-heels and a short blue dress, Smith refers to herself as a huge Bachelor fan and balks at anyone who thinks



looking for love this way is dumb.

"How do they know if they haven't tried it," she quickly replies. "Just give it a shot. What do you have to lose? Nothing. At least you can say you tried."

As the contestants waited for their interviews, many passersby took glimpses of the goings on. Some could be heard even mocking the whole idea.

"Kudos to them for being happy in their life and finding people the way they did," MacDormand says. "I've been trying. And, who knows, maybe this won't work at all. But I've

never judged people on how they found their people. Like online-dating websites, a lot of people look down on that.... Everyone is different"

PHILIP CROUCHER

Accused in spy case did not jeopardize troop safety: Lawyer

A Bedford navy intelligence officer accused of passing information to a foreign entity never did anything to threaten the safety of his fellow troops, his defence lawyer said Tuesday.

Mike Taylor said the public needs to understand that the allegations against Sub.-Lt. Jeffrey Paul Delisle, while serious, don't mean he is accused of endangering his military comrades.

"People think that perhaps our troops have been put at risk and information about their movements and whereabouts and their procedures on the field have been passed on, and that's not the allegation," Taylor said outside Halifax provincial court.

"The allegation is information was passed, and government protects all kinds of information, for all kinds of reasons, and it doesn't necessarily have to do with anyone in particular."

Delisle is in custody at the Central Nova Scotia Correctional Facility, in a more secure wing of the



Burnside prison, away from the general population but not in isolation, Taylor said.

"There are concerns about his well-being," he said. "As you can imagine, there are people out there who aren't too happy about the types of charges."

Taylor said it was too early to say how Delisle will plead, adding he only recently received disclosure of portions of the Crown's case. He said he was hired by one of Delisle's relatives just days ago.

Wearing a red hooded

Violating security

Sub.-Lt. Jeffrey Paul Delisle faces two charges of violating the Security of Information Act that deal with communicating information that could harm national interests.

sweater, Delisle was brought to the court building but not inside the courtroom, where his bail hearing was set for April 13. The Crown declined comment. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Elderly occupant dies in Terrence Bay house fire | Dal talks set to resume

A 78-year-old woman is dead following a house fire in Terrence Bay on Tuesday.

Halifax regional fire was called to a home on the Terrence Bay Road at about 11:30 a.m.

Halifax RCMP say the house was engulfed in flames when firefighters arrived. The blaze was put out about two hours later.

"It's been deemed not suspicious at this time, so we really don't have involvement," police spokesperson Const. Tammy Lobb said.

She said the victim was the only person inside of the home when the fire started.

METRO

Investigation

An exact cause of the fire is being investigated. The two sides in a potential faculty strike at Dalhousie University are returning to the bargaining table this

The school announced on Tuesday that negotiations will be resuming, with talks scheduled for Thursday and Friday.

Dalhousie faculty have voted 83 per cent in favour of strike action as they try to hammer out a new deal with the school's administration. • METRO

Students denied budget hearing

○ Budget recommendations should be public record: ANSSA • Whynott says meetings already booked



The province's standing committee on human resources will hear suggestions from student groups for the provincial budget after the budget is re-

The committee turned down a request from the Alliance of Nova Scotia Student Associations and the Atlantic division of the Canadian Federation of Students for a pre-budget presentation on Tuesday.

Mat Whynott, who chairs the committee, said witnesses had already been booked for the next three meetings, essentially until the budget is released.

"The HR committee is not the avenue for budget consultations," he said.

Whynott suggested the student groups would be better served by taking their suggestions directly to the ministers of finance or advanced education, as they have in the past.

They can always put



submissions in (to the committee) ... written submissions as well as meeting with the minister of finance or the minister of advanced education. And, of course, budget consultations that the minister has in public forums as well."

But Mark Coffin, executive director of ANSSA, said he thinks what the groups have to say should be a matter of public record.

"We think it should be well documented that the government had every opportunity to make changes that would protect students," he said.

"The HR committee is ... recorded verbatim. It presents what questions get asked by the government, the opposition parties, where the meeting with the education minister and the finance minister ... happens behind closed doors."

The Liberals' Zach Churchill, a former student politician who sits on the committee, suggested holding a special meeting to allow the students to speak.

SHIPS START HERE

Ad firm did 'scoping' for province

The advertising company behind the ubiquitous Ships Start Here campaign says it was do-ing mostly "preliminary" work on the file about three months before signing the contract.

Halifax-based MT&L billed the province \$104,762 for that preliminary work, according to invoices obtained by the Canadian Taxpayers' Federation. Sarah Young, a principal at MT&L, said the firm was asked to complete the work on a tight timeline without fully knowing how the campaign would develop.



and this is very typical when we start a project — we're brought in and we're briefed, and at the outset you don't know exactly what it is that you're undertaking," she

When asked how MT&L bills clients for its work while not under contract, or whether there was any agreement on costs in place with the province, Young said: "If anything, it would have been providing a scoping.... Oftentimes

what we'll do is say this is how much it is to engage and go from there.'

When asked if there was a formal agreement between the government and MT&L before the contract was signed, Young said questions about procurement and timelines should be put to the provincial government.

The CTF says the government broke its own procurement policy by awarding the contract without first seeking approval from the Treasury Board or putting it to ten-

Jennifer Stewart, Premier Darrell Dexter's press secretary, said Nova Scotia Business Inc. has the power to fast-track contracts under exceptional circumstances.

ALEX BOUTILIER



An intimate evening at Neptune

Play examines economic, racial, religious divisions in early 20th-century New York



A story about forbidden love through the eyes of a seamstress who makes lingerie for women in 1905 New York.

Need more convincing? Intimate Apparel, a play by Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright Lynn Nottage, premieres at Neptune Theatre's Fountain Hall on Friday.

The play follows a year in the life of protagonist Esther, a seamstress who makes corsets for clients from all walks of life. Esther falls in love with a Hasidic Jew named Mr. Marks, but religion prevents them from realizing their desires. To improve her social status, Esther

marries another — an event that sets in motion a betrayal so moving it had audiences shouting at the stage in Toronto and Edmonton, according to director Philip Akin.

"People would actually start yelling out ... screaming out, 'Don't do that!'" said Akin on Tuesday.

"That means they've identified so much, they're there so much, that it breaks down that little politeness constraint that we all have (to) be polite in Canadian theatre."

Akin said putting up the play at Neptune — a much smaller stage than those in Toronto, Edmonton and Chicago — presented some unique challenges. On larger stages, the set included four rooms side by side. At Neptune, that was

Ticket wicket

Intimate Apparel runs from March 2 to 25. Tickets are available through neptunetheatre.com

condensed into two square rooms on the bottom level, two on the top, with the two connected by a central staircase.

"I've never been on a set in my life where every inch counts," Akin laughed.

"And so it's kind of like, 'Can we move the piano three inches upstage? We'll move the chair two inches upstage — and don't come too close to the edge because I don't want people thinking you're going to fall off."







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Robocall probe leads to fake name

• 'Pierre Poutine' made calls to Edmonton-based RackNine, the Tory-linked firm at centre of scandal

Court documents show a cellphone in the robocalls affair was registered to Pierre Poutine of Separatist Street in Joliette, Que.

Elections Canada's chief investigator says the clearly fake name was likely used to cover the tracks of whoever was behind misleading and harassing calls to voters in Guelph, Ont., in the last federal election.

Voters in Guelph reported getting calls from a phone number with a 450 area code directing them to the wrong polling station.

Elections Canada investigator Al Mathews obtained phone records showing the number behind the Guelph calls was

Tory trouble

- The market-research industry's watchdog is launching an investigation into a Tory pollster involved in an alleged misinformation campaign against Liberal MP Irwin Cotler.
- Campaign Research was behind a phone campaign last fall in Cotler's Montreal riding, in which constituents complained they were falsely told their MP was about to or had resigned and that a byelection was imminent.

the same one registered to "Pierre Poutine."

The phone records also show the number regis-

tered to Pierre Poutine twice called Edmontonbased RackNine Inc., on April 30 and May 1.

The claims, which have not been proved in court, are laid out in an Information to Obtain a Production Order filed in an Edmonton court in November.

The records also show phones associated with Guelph Conservative candidate Marty Burke and the Guelph Conservative riding association made a total of 31 calls to RackNine between March 26 and early May.

RackNine has confirmed someone used its automated dialling service to make the phoney calls.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Report slams Tory crime bill

Restricting conditional sentences is going to cost the provinces and territories almost \$140 million a year, produce fewer convictions and reduce the time offenders are under government supervision, says a report from the independent parliamentary budget officer.

The 97-page study is a detailed and devastating critique of just one small aspect of the massive Conservative omnibus crime bill that is currently before the Senate.

Not only does the report predict a massive, unreported cost to provincial and territorial treasuries, it raises serious questions about the policy's effectiveness.

Justice Minister Rob Nicholson's office did not directly dispute the report's cost findings. THE CANADIAN PRESS



'LEAP DAY SHOULD BE AN OFFICIAL CELEBRATION'

Today, Peter Brouwer is celebrating his 14th birthday. No, Brouwer isn't a precocious teenager who has overachieved in life — he's a 56-year-old man who only gets to celebrate his birthday every four years. The Vancouver resident, like some five million others across the globe, was born on Leap Day, Feb. 29.

Brouwer set up the group so that "leapers" could "share their differ-

ent experiences," and, in some cases, the frustration caused by the whimsical date.

"This day celebrates the fact that our seasons can arrive on time and in sync every year," Brouwer says. "The irony is that leap day is, yes, a chronological anomaly, but one that makes our calendar orderly. We should celebrate this."

ANTHONY JOHNSTON/ METRO WORLD NEWS

Teen shooting suspect's victims random

The teenage suspect in a school shooting that killed three students and wounded two didn't know his victims and chose them randomly, a prosecutor said Tuesday.

Suspect Ť.J. Lane, 17, admitted firing 10 shots with a .22-calibre pistol Monday morning at Chardon High School, county prosecutor David Joyce said at a juvenile court hearing.

The hearing came hours after the death toll rose to

three, and as schoolmates and townspeople grappled with the tragedy and wondered what could have set the gunman off.

Lane's face twitched lightly while the prosecutor recounted the attack, and he sniffled and half-closed his eyes as he walked out of the room with deputies.

Lane's custodial grandfather and two aunts joined him in court; the women reached over and lightly



embraced the grandfather as the hearing began.

Judge Timothy Grendell ordered the boy, who is considered a juvenile, held for at least the next 15 days. Prosecutors have until March 1 to charge him.

The judge imposed a gag order on opposing attorneys at the prosecutor's request and told the media not to photograph the boy's face in court.

Shaken residents offered condolences and prayers to

the families of those killed and wounded at 1,100-student high school in suburban Cleveland. All three of the dead were students, as are the two people wounded

"This gets more tragic, the whole area is suffering, our prayers go up to God to give all strength, healing and closure," said one of hundreds of Facebook postings on a memorial page.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bus driver acquitted in deaths of passengers

A bus driver was acquitted Tuesday of homicide in the deaths of four passengers killed when his Toronto-bound doubledecker crashed into an overpass in Upstate New York in September 2010.

A judge announced the verdict after a non-jury trial for 60-year-old John Tomaszewski of Yardville, N.J.

Tomaszewski would have faced up to four years in state prison on each of four counts of criminally negligent homicide. He sat with his head bowed and showed no reaction as Onondaga County Court Judge Anthony Aloi read the verdict.

"It's something I'll have to deal with the rest of my life," a weary Tomaszewski said as he left court with his wife.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Customs, RCMP and police foil suicide

Customs agents, Mounties and city police have foiled a suicide pact that involved a car full of potentially hazardous chemicals at Winnipeg's international airport.

Officers in the Manitoba capital say they were tipped by Mounties in British Columbia that a woman, believed to be from Europe, had just entered the country through

Vancouver with the intention of meeting a 27-year-old man in Winnipeg.

Const. Jason Michalyshen said the two had met on a website and had made a suicide pact. Police locked down the Winnipeg airport late Monday night and found the man with a car full of chemicals.

No charges are pending.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Child-porn investigation nets four Quebec men

Four Quebecers are facing charges in connection with a notorious international child pornography investigation involving a former daycare worker in Holland.

Quebec provincial police say they and other police forces swooped in on four suspects, who were scheduled to appear in various courtrooms across the province later Tuesday.

The four men, aged between 29 and 60, face

charges of producing, possessing and distributing child pornography. Police had initially said five men were being sought but they revised that number later in the day, without explaining why.

The charges stem from a wide-ranging investigation into Robert Mikelsons, a former daycare worker and babysitter in Amsterdam

THE CANADIAN PRESS



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CANADIANS ABOARD

Disabled cruise ship gets food

Helicopters ferried food and flashlights to more than 1,000 people, including 14 Canadians, stuck aboard a disabled cruise ship.

The Costa Allegra was being towed to the Seychelles Islands on Tuesday through waters prowled by pirates.
Officials said the Costa Allegra could reach the Seychelles island of

Mahe by late Wednesday or early Thursday. The ship lost power Monday after a fire in its generator room knocked

out the engines, lights

and air conditioning.

The drama comes six weeks after sister ship Costa Concordia hit a reef and capsized off Italy, killing 25 people and leaving seven missing and presumed dead.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

9-11 remains sent to landfill: Pentagon

The Pentagon said Tuesday partial, incinerated remains of some Sept. 11 victims that could not be identified were sent to a landfill

The remains were of some of those killed when a hijacked plane struck the Pentagon, killing 184, and another crashed in a field in Pennsylvania, killing 40, in the 2001 attacks.

The Pentagon released the report by an independent committee that was asked to examine practices at the military's mortuary at Dover, Delaware.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Syria's envoy makes fast exit

▶ He denounces a planned UN resolution as 'malicious and prejudiced' ▶ Then he storms out of meeting room

First, he delivered a fiery speech that accused the United Nations Human Rights Council of promoting terrorism in Syria and prolonging the nation's bloodshed.

Then he stormed out of the emergency UN meeting in Geneva.

All of which earned Fayssal al-Hamwi, Syria's ambassador to the UN in Geneva, a tongue-lashing.

The United States said he demonstrated the "delusional" nature of President Bashar Assad's regime.

"I think it's a reflection to some extent of what's going on with the Assad regime itself, holding a "Anybody who heard the Syrian ambassador should be aware that his comments were borderline out of touch with reality."

EILEEN CHAMBERLAIN DONAHOE, U.S. REPRESENTATIVE

referendum that is farcical and a mockery of democratic processes when they're in the midst of a humanitarian crisis of their own creation," said Eileen Chamberlain Donahoe, the U.S. representative to the 47-nation council.

The global body now says more than 7,500 people have died in Syria's turmoil since March. Reports say 100 civilians are dying daily.

Al-Hamwi told delegates: "We are convinced the real aim behind holding this session today is to cover up for the violence and murder perpetrated by the armed groups against innocent civilians."

He added: "We are not pretending that the human rights situation in Syria is perfect."

Then he said his delegation would withdraw from "this sterile discussion."



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Doomsday vault holds seeds for a world crisis

Chick peas, fava beans and other seeds from a facility in strife-torn Syria are among 25,000 new samples being deposited this week in an Arctic seed vault built to protect food crops from wars and natural disasters.

The latest additions mean that the Svalbard Global Seed Vault — a master backup to the world's other seed banks — has now secured more than 740,000 samples since it opened in a remote Norwegian archipelago in 2008.

That represents an estimated three-quarters of the biological diversity of the world's major food crops, said Cary Fowler, executive director of the trust that maintains the vault with Norway's government and the Nordic Genetic Resources Centre.

Fowler noted that wars destroyed seed banks in Iraq and Afghanistan.

One in Egypt was looted during last year's uprising. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Impregnable?

- ► The Svalbard Global Seed Vault — sometimes referred to as a doomsday vault — is designed to withstand global warming, earthquakes and even nuclear strikes.
- Samples shipped this year included wheat from a range of climates and conditions in Armenia and the Pamir mountains of Tajik-
- istan the first seeds from the two former Soviet republics.
- Wild crops are of particular interest because of their resilience to harsh climatic conditions.
- The U.S. seed bank is the biggest national contributor. This year it is sending 12,801 samples, including amaranth, once a nutritious grain for Aztecs and Incas.



Tunisia to offer Assad asylum?

Tunisia's president says he's ready to offer asylum to Syria's leader, Bashar Assad, in a bid to end the Syrian bloodshed.

President Moncef Marzouki told a local paper the offer would also extend to Assad's associates.

Marzouki's interview was set to appear Wednesday in the French-language daily La Presse.

Tunisia would be a surprising choice for Assad's retirement as it was the first Arab nation to topple a longtime autocrat. Its former president fled the country a year ago amid nationwide protests.

Meanwhile, Syrian rebels smuggled a wounded British journalist out of the besieged Syrian city of Homs and whisked him to safety in Lebanon Tuesday, activist groups said.

Thirteen Syrians who were trying to help rescue Paul Conroy and other trapped western reporters were killed in the operation, according to one group.

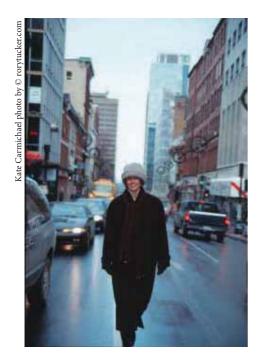
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



- Tunisia was the first country to recall its ambassador from Syria in protest of the violence.
- It also hosted an international conference Friday that called for an immediate ceasefire and the delivery of humanitarian aid to the country.

Downtown Halifax Business Commission presents the

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Greece passes new round of cuts

• About 100 uniformed police, coast-guard and fire-service unionists protest slashed pay outside Parliament

Greece's Parliament late on Tuesday approved new cuts in public-sector pensions and government spending required to secure a second package of international rescue loans.

Lawmakers voted 202-80 in favour of cutbacks worth a total \$4.31 billion and aimed at bringing the 2012 budget back in line with targets. Lawmakers from both parties in Prime Minister Lucas Papademos' coalition, the majority Socialists and the conservatives, backed the legislation.

Earlier, the debt-crippled country's cabinet decided to apply recent labour reforms, including deep cuts to the minimum wage, retroactively to Feb. 14.

Greece is obliged to adopt a series of austerity measures and reforms before it can receive any funds from its new \$174-billion



package of rescue loans from other eurozone countries and the International Monetary Fund.

The bailout, and accompanying bond-swap deal

with private creditors, are meant to save the country from a potentially catastrophic default in late March that could drag down other financially vulnerable countries and threaten the European Union's joint currency, the euro.

The rescue package is Greece's second in less than

By the numbers

- The newly approved legislation imposes nearly \$538 million in cuts to already depleted pensions.
- Health and education spending will be reduced by more than \$229 million, subsidies to the state health-care system will be cut by \$673 million, and health-care spending on medicine will fall by \$767 million.
- Furthermore, some \$538 million will be lopped off defence spending.
- The law also revises the

two years. The country has been surviving since May 2010 on funds from a first bailout from the eurozone and IMF, and has received \$98 billion from the initially approved \$147-billion package.

- 2012 budget, changing the government deficit target to 6.7 per cent of gross domestic product from an initial forecast of 5.4 per cent.
- Measures approved include a 22 per cent cut in the minimum salary, currently at \$1,010 per month, for private-sector workers, and a 32 per cent cut for workers under the age of 25, where the rate of unemployment is nearly 50 per cent.
- Limits also are being imposed on collective wage agreements and the process of labour arbitration.

The new wave of austerity measures have sparked widespread anger among a public that has seen its income and living standards drop with no clear end to the crisis in sight.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Microsoft previews Windows 8

Since Microsoft released its Windows operating system in 1985, most of the sequels have been variations on the same theme.

The stakes are much different as the company puts the finishing touches on Windows 8, perhaps the most important piece of software the company has designed since the early 1980s

A beta version of the revamped operating system will be unveiled Wednesday in Barcelona, nudging Windows 8 a step closer to its anticipated mass market release in the fall. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Google policy may violate EU rules



Google's new privacy policy appears to violate the European Union's dataprotection rules, France's regulator said Tuesday, just two days before the new guidelines are set to come into force.

Google announced its new privacy policy with much fanfare last month. The rules, which are set to come into force on Thursday, regulate how the web giant uses the enormous amounts of personal data it collects through its search engine, email and other services.

Commission also examining whether Google uses its dominance to stop others from entering the EU market

However, the EU's dataprotection authorities are concerned about the privacy effects of the policy and earlier this month asked French regulator CNIL to investigate them.

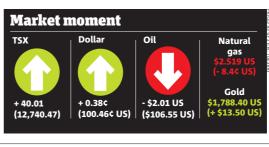
"Our preliminary analysis shows that Google's new policy does not meet the requirements of the European Directive on Data Protection," CNIL said in a letter to Google chief executive Larry Page.

The agency said Google's explanation of how it will use the data was too vague and difficult to understand "even for trained privacy professionals"

The new policy makes it easier for Google to combine the data of one person using different services such as the search engine, YouTube or Gmail if she is logged into her Google account. That allows Google to create a broader profile of that user and target advertising based on that person's interests and search history more accurately.

Google argues that combining the data into one profile also makes search results more relevant and allows a user to cross-navigate between different services more easily.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS





EUGENE HOSHIKO/THE ASSOCIATED PRES

Apple invite continues tablet tease

Apple is inviting reporters to an event next Wednesday in San Francisco. An image on the invite showing part of an iPad screen suggests the company will announce a new model. Unconfirmed reports have speculated a sharper screen and faster cellular broadband options could be part of the next model.





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IF YOU HAVE EVER QUESTIONED THE TERM 'DOWNWARD DOG,' READ ON

JUST SAYIN' ...

PAUL SULLIVAN
METRO

"They may have

to build a new wing onto The

Bad Yogi Hall of

Shame to

shoehorn John

Friend in with

fellow

philanderers ..."

It's generally thought that things beginning with "yog" are good for you.

Like "yogurt" and "yoga" and "Yogi" (Berra, Bear, etc.). But, it turns out, that's not always the case.

Yoga, for example, lost one of its shining stars recently as yogi John Friend, the founder of Anusara yoga — a kind of feel-good, hang-loose variation on the theme — resigned amid accusations that he felt too good and hung too loose.

Friend, the accusations go, wanted to be more than friends with an unusually large number of his female adherents, ran Wiccan covens featuring a variety of sexual activities, kept employees busy scoring marijua-

na on his behalf, and at one point even froze his employees' pensions.

So much for Mr. Nice Yo-

The yoga community has been rocked and shocked by this scandal, and more than 50 Anusara teachers have rolled up their mats and left the ashram. But as a number of astute commentators have noticed, this is hardly the first time some guru has stepped out of line.

They may have to build a new wing onto The Bad Yogi Hall of Shame to shoehorn John Friend in with fellow philanderers Swami Muktananda, Swami Satchidananda, Swami Amrit Desai and Swami Rama.

The problem may be that yoga (unlike yogurt) is inherently sexy. Hatha yoga, the form most practised around the world, started as a branch of Tantra, which is all about seeking spiritual bliss through sex. The movement to make it safe for a general audience didn't really take hold until the 20th century, so the sex is just under the surface, which should be obvious whenever you find yourself in the "downward dog" pose.

According to a usually reliable source — the New York Times — there is scientific evidence that yoga is inherently sexy. It causes an increase in testosterone (the guru sex hormone), sexy brain waves, and yoga's fast-breathing practice can increase blood flow through the genitals. Like Viagra.

At Rutgers University, researchers have found that yoga can be an effective form of mental masturbation, leading to spontaneous orgasm, or "thinking off." Don't try that with yogurt. (It doesn't work.)

So the real surprise is that there aren't more yoga-based shenanigans. Or the real surprise, considering the evidence, is that anyone is surprised. Add the power imbalance that often goes with these guru-groupie situations and you have a surefire recipe for scandal.

Of course, millions of people who practise yoga and eat yogurt aren't looking for kicks. They just want improved flexibility and digestion.

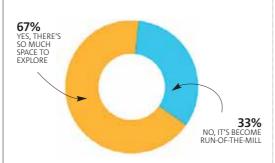
Sex with the guru improves neither.

Read more of Paul Sullivan's columns at metronews.ca/justsaying



Register at metropolitanpanel.ca and take the quick poll

Are you excited by the finding of new planets?



Local tweets



@JessicaMGeorge: halifax, I get that snow

rarely lasts a day, but that doesn't mean you don't have to clear the sidewalks, people have to walk #busstrike

- @Tom_Sinc: Damn slush everywhere and no buses. Hooray for wet feet #Sarcasm #GetItTogether #Halifax
- @achorney: Only in Halifax would I need snow boots on my feet and an umbrella over my head. #wackyweather
- @cameronmcraig: So

- Megan Leslie can't name Nova Scotia's senators? That's OK Megan. Most Nova Scotians can't name the MP for Halifax either. #nspoli
- @mackaylc: Let's make #Halifax a real city...Waterside dev, and hopefully the Skye and YMCA development. Who cares about the view plan from Citadel.
- @KristenHarper: this morning was the easiest drive to work ever in #Halifax! I wish school was cancelled more often
- @allistercanada: I bet the HRSB school closures will the top to story on the news. HRSB is gonna get criticized again.. #Halifax



Occupy London camp removed

LONDON. A time for contemplation and reflection? A supporter of anticapitalist movement Occupy London meditated in the remains of a partially dismantled tent in London on Tuesday morning. After being camped outside St. Paul's Cathedral for more than four months, demonstrators were evicted by police and bailiffs.

"The relationships forged during these strange and beautiful four and a half months still have much further to run. This is only the beginning."

STATEMENT FROM WEBSITE OF OCCUPY THE LONDON STOCK

Britain's protests

- November 2010: 55,000 students demonstrate over
- December 2010: Protesters target state buildings and damage a car carrying Prince Charles.
- August 2011: More than 2,800 people are arrested after a protest over a fatal shooting by police prompted rioting.
- November 2011: Occupy movement set up.





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Films that take a leap

▶ It's not every year we get an extra day to play ◆ Some filmmakers have based their movies around the magical Feb. 29 — telling leap year tales of love, ennui and ghosts

IN FOCUS

RICHARD CROUSE



You may not be aware of this, but we're living in a bissextile year. What does that

mean? Well, it means today's date, Feb. 29, didn't exist last year. Or the year before that. In fact, you have to flip the calendar back to 2008 to find the last time February had 29 days.

But how to celebrate the year's extra day? If you are Ja Rule, Antonio Sabato Jr., or Tony Robins, all leap year babies, you could throw yourself a birthday party, but if not, why not rent or download (legally of course!) a movie about those rare years with 366 days?

The Amy Adams romcom Leap Year is based on an old Irish legend that says that women can propose to men, but only on Feb. 29. She travels to Ireland to ask for her longtime beau's hand, only to get sidetracked in Wales by a tall handsome stranger played by Matthew Goode.

You can likely guess the rest (and if you can't you need to go to romantic comedy school and learn how this works) but ► Amy Adams stars opposite Matthew Goode in Leap Year, a rom-com about an American who travels to Ireland to propose to her longtime beau on Feb. 29.

the proposal Amy finally gives is much different than the one she originally intended.

Also on the romantic side is The Leap Years, a Chinese film about a woman who meets her lover once every four years on, you guessed it, Feb. 29.

The main character, Li-Ann, is played by three actresses. Beatrice Chia handles all the narration, Wong Li-lin ushers her through her 20s with Joan Chen playing her in middle age.

Rounding out our look at leap year movies are two films with nothing whatsoever to do with romance.

The strange and disturbing Ano Bisiesto was

the first Mexican film to win the Camera D'Or award at the Cannes Film Festival.

The story of a lonely woman (Monica del Carmen) who marks off the days on a calendar as she reveals her true self to her lover was called "a blind leap into the void of arthouse cinema du extreme, South of the

Border division" by Time Out but is also a deeply felt psychological drama.

On the scary side is The Curse of February 29, a Korean horror film about a blood stained bus ticket, a vengeful ghost and a leap year murder.

Leap years at the movies offers something for everyone — love, ennui and even ghosts!



Scene in brief



Little House on the Prairie actress Melissa Gilbert, singer Gladys Knight and NFL player Donald Driver will be among the 12 celebrity contestants on the next season of Dancing With the Stars. Other famous faces participating in the show's 14th edition include The View cohost Sherri Shepherd and singer-songwriter Gavin DeGraw. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Meryl Streep donates \$100 to school on behalf of hometown star Viola Davi





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•

Portman married in secret to Millepied

• Their jeweller confirms the pair had wedding bands made following Oscars

THE WORD

MONICA WEYMOUTH

SCENE@METRONEWS.CA

Natalie Portman is married and didn't invite us

After showing up to the Academy Awards sporting suspicious rings, it seems that Natalie Portman and Benjamin Millepied did, indeed, get married without telling us. Jeweler Jamie Wolf confirms that the couple — who met on the set of Black Swan and have a son together - created the wedding bands.

"I designed the rings Benjamin Millepied and Natalie Port-Wolf told

"I designed the rings worn by **Benjamin** Millepied and Natalie Portman. They were made with recycled platinum and conflict-free diamonds." JEWELER JAMIE WOLF

Magazine.com.

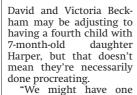
"They were made with recycled platinum and conflict-free diamonds.

Their eco-friendly jeweler leaked the news?

This, friends, is what we call a rich people problem.



Becks still after more kids



more or two more, you never know." David savs. according to Hollyscoop. "We're not thinking about it yet, but if it happens, great. We're enjoying the kids as it is. It's always a thought.'

And Victoria, who has complained recently about being exhausted from work and having a new-



nitely not just yet." @ METRO

born, is still up for more. "I'm not against having more children. I feel lucky having the kids I have and I guess I do like being pregnant," she says. "But defi-

Talking points

Paltrow pegs Blue Ivy Carter as a performer

GWYNETH IS CLEARLY A PSYCHIC While Blue Ivy Carter is just seven weeks old, some of the adults in her life already have a career picked out for her.

"She is going to be an entertainer," Gwyneth Paltrow, who is pals with parents Beyoncé Knowles and Jay-Z, tells Hollywood Life. "She just has this glow around her like her mother. She's stunning. She has the most beautiful eyes." **⊚ METRO**

Uma Thurman pregnant again

ADDING TO THE FLOCK Uma Thurman is expecting a baby with financier Arpad Busson, her rep confirms to People magazine.

And while the actress wasn't necessarily ready to talk about her pregnancy, her friends were more than happy

"Yes, Uma is pregnant," a Thurman pal tells Life & Style.

"She hasn't announced it yet, but a lot of her friends were asking her, because they could tell the differ-

Celebrity tweets







knows every word to every Neil Diamond song ever. This wasn't mentioned in the courting process."



this. I just took a shower and I

"You'll

actually did at one point drop the soap."

"random question what can i do to get rid of puffy

eyes from crying? there is no way i am putting hemroid cream on my eyes!"



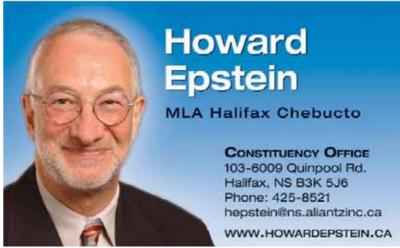
aettina dressed for Oscars.'

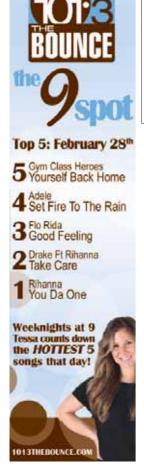
ence when they saw her at New York Fashion Week. She's usually so skinny, but now she has the cutest little bump and a glow about Thurman also has

two children with ex-husband Ethan Hawke.

METRO









Berlin, Germany

Always on affordable travel lists, Berlin remains high because, this summer, the new Berlin Bradenburg Airport opens — and you may be able to find promotional flights there. After arriving, you'll find yourself in the East Village of New York, circa 1970s: the

punk rockers are actually punk rockers, and the art is bold. By day, take in the history—you can walk along the Berlin Wall, or visit the Berlin Cathedral. By night, relive your techno glory days at places like Berghain/Panorama Bar, one of the best in all of Europe.

Nashville, Tenn.

Downtown Nashville is walkable (saving you transportation costs) and hotels are usually under \$100 a night. That means you'll have more money to spend on entertainment. This

is the place to see the big names (like Willie Nelson) or small ones, at venues such as Mercy Lounge (on hopping Cannery Row). There's usually a festival going on, too.

4

great getaways



Paris, France

You already want to go. So go in August. The entire place clears out, and you'll find cheaper hotels, empty cafes and less queueing at museums. According to Woody Allen, walking around at midnight is fun, too.



Costa Rica

Also known as "the holiday Americans take when they cannot afford Hawaii or the Bahamas," Costa Rica offers adventure without risk. Most locals speak English. It's close to the States. And everything from rent-

ing a car to booking a hotel costs far less than neighbouring islands. Yet you still come home with a tan. Check out visitcostarica.com to start planning today.

SAM CASTONE,
METRO WORLD NEWS

life

Travel in brief



Organizers of a weeklong celebration of Ontario's burgeoning craft beer industry are hoping to attract visitors from outside the province to partake in the suds-soaked events. Hosted by 29 breweries, the third annual Ontario Craft Beer Week is planning hundreds of beerthemed activities across Ontario. The festival launches on Father's Day, running from June 17 to 23. THE CANADIAN PRESS



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Newfoundland lings



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Young? Broke?

▶ If so, a new travel website caters to you ▶ Off Track Planet is meant to connect "independent youth"



Ever wish you knew which countries are best for cheap volunteer gigs? Or, what is Bunny Chow?

Freddie Pikovsky and his small, but well-travelled team of three other full-time staffers, have set out to answer those questions with the launch of Off Track Planet (OTP), a blog and magazine aimed at young explorers on a budget.

The Brooklyn-based publication is now in its fourth print issue, but you can enjoy it online, too. Metro caught up with Pikovsky, co-founder and CEO of OTP, to hear about the trip that inspired it all, why it's easier to hire younger writers and what it means to be young, sexy and broke.

How was OTP born?

Four years ago, I took my first trip abroad. I started in Israel and made my way through Western Europe to Greece, Italy, Spain and the



Netherlands. It was lifechanging to see how other people lived their lives. I came home to L.A. and I was on a mission to inspire other people to travel the world because I felt it would create positive change to see life through others. I realized there was nothing connecting independent youth travel to an audience, so I decided to come up with something edgy and truthful. I moved to NYC, where I spent my first year living and working at a youth hostel in Brooklyn, then began to develop a team.

What is the "young, sexy and broke" theme all about?

I qualify anybody who is young to be automatically sexy. Broke means you might still be living off your parents or you're not able to afford luxury cruises and five star hotels. You want to do it and you can, but in a fashion that is very low budget. A lot of the topics are about sex culture and party culture around the world. It's easy to say we're edgy, but we are trying to get their attention and the way we relate is that we are truthful about what's at the top of the list when you're a young trav-



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Miami's other 'wild' side

• The Travellin' Canadian finds out there's more to Miami than just the night life and beaches

THE TRAVELLIN' CANADIAN

DARREN PARKMAN
TRAVEL@METRONEWS CA



It turns out there's a little more to Miami than all night parties on south beach

and endless days of baking in the sun. During my recent whirlwind jaunt to this sun drenched paradise, I found there is a way to slow the pace just long enough to smell the roses, and avoid those 'Sobe' hangovers. One of the surprising highlights of my visit turned out to be one of those tourist-trap style,

stereotypical boat tours of Biscayne Bay.

It was just after arriving at the Miami Marina, I experienced one the coolest up close wildlife encounters ever. Now, I've been lucky enough to get up close with some strange creatures over the years, from web-toed platypuses in Australia, to giant Orangutans in Borneo, but even they were no more impressive than what greeted me right here in the wilds of downtown Miami, no less.

There they were ... milling around the docks ... a real live pair of giant, endangered and very blubbery Manatees. These gentle giants were just lazily floating on the surface, surrounded by downtown skyscrapers.

It was a bit strange to see them out of their natural habitat, as tourists flocked around them taking pictures.

My jet boat tour courtesy of Ocean Front adventures turned out to be no less impressive. Dolphins skipped alongside our boat as we passed a strange mix of natural east coast sea life in front of a collection of multimillion dollar mansions.

It was a bit weird to behold all this natural beauty as we roared by the waterfront of palaces of celebrities such as Rosie O'Donnell and Madonna, but hey, that's what Miami is all about.

Back on dry land, I chose gentler Coconut Grove over wild and crazy south beach, and was glad I did. The vibe in the "Grove" is decidedly more mellow and relaxed, with tons of laid back watering holes filled with

Southern fun

- Do the South Beach strip: It's an impressive display of trendy art deco bars and hotels, and tons of crazy partiers dancing on tables and paying high drink prices.
- Visit the Florida keys: Rent a car and journey down to stunning Key West. Nothing like digging into a piece of Key Lime pie at the southern most tip of the US.

friendly locals. Of course I needed to soak up those suds with some great food, and the funky Peacock Garden Café was just the ticket.

There's nothing like a great steak under the stars in the middle of winter. At the end of it all I felt as content as those blubbery manatees.





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Drink of the week

Orange Pear Refresher

This drink will cool your palate and leave a citrus flavour.

- 3 tbsp (45 mL) fresh lemon juice
- 2 tbsp (30 mL) simple syrup
- 3 tbsp (45 mL) pear infused vodka
- 1/2 cup (125 mL) sparkling orange beverage

Fill tall glass with ice and pour in lemon juice, vodka and simple syrup. Top with orange beverage and serve. Garnish with lemon wedge and fresh mint.

SAN PELLEGRINO ARANCIATA



Pasta: The next generation

• Put aside granny's traditional meatballs and sauce and try this unique take on a favourite comfort dish • The caramelized onions in this pasta are slow cooked to intensify the flavour

A common complaint about slow cooker recipes is that too many of them require either too much planning or too much prepping (and sometimes cooking) of ingredients before they go into the cooker. Busy people want recipes that let them dump stuff in, then walk away and forget about it until dinner.

That's where this simple, but over-the-top-good recipe comes in. You let the slow cooker perfectly caramelize a whole mess of onions while you are at work for the day. When you come home, you toss those with a few other ingredients and in the time it takes you to boil pasta, you have dinner.

A food processor is the easiest way to slice this

volume of onions. And you also could do that the night before, then bag them and toss them in the refrigerator until the next morning so all you have to do is empty them into the slow cooker.

Preparation:

- In a large slow cooker, combine onions and olive oil. Stir well to coat, then cover and cook on High for 6 to 8 hours or until well browned and caramelized.
- In large pot of boiling salted water, cook pasta for about 9 minutes or until tender but firm.
 Drain well and return to pot. Add onions, creme fraiche, arugula and sun-dried tomatoes. Stir over medium heat for

Ingredients:

- 1.5 kg (3 lb) onions, thinly
- 30 ml (2 tbsp) olive oil
- 500 g (1 lb) fettuccine pas-
- 1 tub (250 g/8 oz) creme fraiche
- 1 container (142 g/5 oz) baby arugula
- 250 ml (1 cup) thinly sliced sun-dried tomatoes
- Salt and ground black pepper

about 2 minutes or until arugula just begins to wilt. Season with salt and pepper to taste. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/ ADAPTED BY EMILY RICHARDS (PROFESSIONAL HOME ECONOMIST, COOKBOOK AUTHOR AND TV COKEBRITY CHEF. VISIT, EMILYRICHARDSCOOK,CA)







When the chief has changed

O You've settled into your role at work when suddenly there's a switch in management Here's how to start over



Many students and recent grads look to their managers to set the tone for their current and future working relationships.

There is comfort in having worked for a manager for a period of time — they know the way you think, they trust in your abilities, and they know the best way to coach you.

So how do you start all over again when you get a new manager?

It's a scary time, but also a great opportunity to grow your skills and be challenged by a new perspective.

It's very important for student and entry-level employees to be open,



build credibility, and want the new reporting line to work.

Here are some tips if you have a new manager.

Come in open minded Your new manager is likely to operate

differently than the last, so you should seek to understand their perspective. Don't make snap judgments.

Ask questions This is tied to not making quick decisions or judgments. Ask questions to seek understand-

ing about changes your new manager is making if they aren't giving you the rationale or background.

Deliver results Delivering results with a great attitude is the best way to build your personal credibility with a new manager.

Be open and transparent Open conversation and transparency will work well on both sides to create a strong working relationship right from the get-go. Good luck!

CHELSEA NEWTON IS THE DIRECTOR OF TALENT ACQUISITION AT MOSAIC SALES SOLUTIONS. HER EXPERTISE IS IN HIRING YOUNG ADULTS AND SHE HAS BUILT CAMPUS RECRUIT-

Talking through the transition

If possible, speak with your current manager about the transition they are completing with your new manager before it takes place.

If you had an open relationship with your previous manager, you can help shape this discussion by highlighting key things that really work in your current relationship.

If your current manager is unable to have a transition with your new manager, take matters into your own hands. Put together a "get to know me" email with your job description, org chart of your team (if applicable), previous performance review, and current targets and goals. Book a meeting with your new manager to get to know each other, walk through your current work load and review your coals.

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NEW SAINT MARY'S HUSKIES FOOTBALL COACH PERRY MARCHESE SAID TUESDAY THAT FINDING A YOUNG **OUARTERBACK HAS "BECOME** A RECRUITING PRIORITY' WITH THE DEPARTURE OF IESSE MILLS. THE PROMISING YOUNG PIVOT FROM HALIFAX OFFICIALLY ANNOUNCED LAST WEEK HE IS LEAVING SAINT MARY'S AFTER ONE SEASON AND WILL IOIN FORMER **HUSKIES HEAD COACH STEVE** SUMARAH WITH CARLETON IN 2013. MARCHESE, HIRED ON FEB. 17, WILL BEGIN ONE ON-ONE MEETINGS WITH RETURNING PLAYERS ON WEDNESDAY





NBL rules in favour of its officials



As far as the National Basketball League of Canada is concerned, the Halifax Rainmen's Jan. 30 road loss to the Moncton Miracles had nothing to do with poor officiating.

Despite allegations from Rainmen head coach Josep 'Pep' Claros that the officials were "inventing fouls" to put the Miracles back in the game, NBL Canada director of officials Mike Homsy reviewed the video this week and determined that was not the case.

"I can confidently say

Upcoming game

The Rainmen are back in action at home on Thursday at 7 p.m. to the Miracles.

that the game was officiated similarly at both ends of the floor," Homsy said. "I charted all the calls and nocalls of the game and neither team gained any noticeable advantage by the decisions of the referees."

Rainmen owner Andre Levingston, who also serves as league president, said at the time he "absolutely, 100 per cent" expected Homsy to take disciplinary action against the refs.

Homsy said his review took almost a full month because the Miracles "had problems with their DVDs." He said he plans to address the issues surrounding the delay.

"One of my priorities for next year is to have a system in place that will allow us to review games within a couple of hours of their completion," Homsy said.

MATTHEW WUEST

Smith opposes fighting ban

New York Times reports stricter fighting penalties could be coming from Hockey Canada, USA Hockey



Halifax Mooseheads owner Bobby Smith is defending fighting in junior hockey as Hockey Canada mulls changes to eliminate it.

Smith said Tuesday the QMJHL's board of governors recently voted down automatic game misconducts for fighting and confirmed he's "one of the leading proponents" against changes to the current rules.

His position, he said, is based on player safety and not marketing, arguing the threat of having to fight an opponent cuts down on dangerous plays causing more serious injuries.

"My biggest fear when I walk into a rink is some kid leaving on a stretcher because he got hit from behind into the boards," said Smith, who played 1,077 games in the NHL.

"For me, players understand how a threat of a fight influences how players conduct themselves on the ice. I'll take a chipped tooth in a fight any time if it's saving a real serious injury."

The New York Times reported Tuesday that Hockey Canada, as well as USA Hockey, could implement

rule changes to "effectively end fighting as soon as next season."

"The appetite is there," CHL president David Branch told the paper. "The time is right to move forward."

Hockey Canada president Bob Nicholson added that his organization's stance is to "get rid of fighting as quickly as we can"

Smith, however, said Hockey Canada rule changes don't automatically apply to the QMJHL unless the board of governors votes to accept them. The host league's rules would apply at the CHL's Memorial Cup.

Smith said he supports recent QMJHL rule changes that imposed tougher penalties on aggressors and for fighting in the final five minutes of games, but draws the line there.

"I like where we are with the fighting rule right now and I think it would be a very bad thing for player safety if we eliminated fighting now," Smith said. "I don't think it's a coincidence that Wayne Gretzky played 18 years and really never got hurt, and (with stricter fighting rules) the best player today (Sidney Crosby) has really not played for over a year now."





"I'm aware of the arguments on both sides of the issue and I'm aware hockey is the only sport where fighting is allowed. But I'm also aware football is the only sport where a 280-pound guy can take an eight-yard run at the MVP of the other team and knock him down from behind — and if he does that, he's an all-star."

metr@sports



Canadians send warm wishes to Habs legend Beliveau

News that hockey great Jean Beliveau was hospitalized following a stroke has prompted an outpouring of affection and get-well wishes for the legendary centreman, beloved as much for his gracious personality as his graceful skating.

Memories of the gentlemanly captain, whom Jean Chretien once approached to be Governor General, flooded onto Internet comment boards and Twitter.

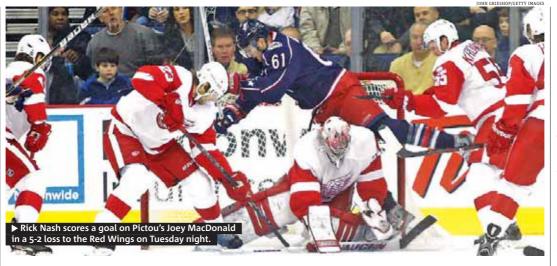
The prime minister wished Beliveau well. So did the interim leader of the NDP, Nycole Turmel, and other politicians.

"Mr. Beliveau is a great Canadian and a remarkable ambassador for our national sport," Stephen Harper said in an emailed statement. "We wish him a speedy recovery."

Beliveau, who won 10 Stanley Cups while playing with the Habs, was resting in a Montreal hospital on Tuesday.

The Canadiens reported Tuesday that the 80-yearold Hall of Famer was admitted to hospital after having the stroke Monday evening.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



'That was the best thing for the team'

Nash says he asked for trade from Blue Jackets to help with rebuilding

Rick Nash had difficulty sleeping on Monday night, after it became known that he had asked the Columbus Blue Jackets to trade him.

After spending nine seasons as the face of a losing franchise, Nash is now uncertain of the reaction from fans who have idolized him but now might see him as just another opportunist.

"I'm not too sure what to expect." he said Tuesday in his first public comments after it was revealed he had asked to be dealt. "I've been with these fans my whole career here. I love them no matter what. They're a great fan base, loyal. They've been patient with this organization and

\$7.5M

Rick Nash is signed through the 2014-15 season and will make between \$7.5 million and \$7.9 million each year.

with this team. No matter what the reception is I'll always have a soft spot in my heart for our fans."

General manager Scott Howson first mentioned Nash's trade request on Monday, shortly after he failed to trade the four-time all-star.

"He obviously wants a change," said Howson, who

was first approached by Nash in January about being moved.

Most people had thought the team, with the worst record by far in the NHL at 18-37-7, had first floated the possibility of dealing its best player. So it was a shocker that it was Nash, who has long said how much he loves Columbus and the Blue Jackets, who wanted out.

Nash was adamant — repeating the same phrase several times — that he not only wanted to help his own career but also help the organization that drafted him No. 1 and helped him become one of the top stars in the NHL.

"I was informed by management that there was a rebuild, a reshape, in the team and I personally felt I could be a huge part of that towards bringing assets in," he said. "In my view, that was the best thing for the team, the organization, and personally for my ca-

One major problem will be building a team around a captain who has already said he'd prefer to be elsewhere

reer.

He said he wanted to remain as captain, at least for the final 20 games of this season. Team officials gave no indication that he would lose the "C" on his jersey. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Braun's urine collector defends himself

The person who collected Ryan Braun's urine sample that tested positive for elevated levels of testosterone said he followed the collection program's protocol.

Dino Laurenzi Jr. issued a statement Tuesday confirming he handled the sample submitted following a playoff game on Oct. 1.

He says he has been a collector for Comprehensive Drug Testing since 2005 and has taken more than 600 samples for Major League Baseball's drug-testing program.

"At no point did I tamper in any way with the samples," Laurenzi said.

Laurenzi's name emerged last week after the NL MVP's 50-game suspension was overturned, making Braun the first big leaguer to successfully challenge a drug-related penalty in a grievance.

Laurenzi said he stored Braun's sample in his basement in accordance with CDT's protocol because there was "no FedEx office located within 50 miles of Miller Park that would ship packages that day or Sunday."

Braun, however, has said at least five FedEx locations within 5 miles were open until 9 p.m. and there also was a 24-hour location.

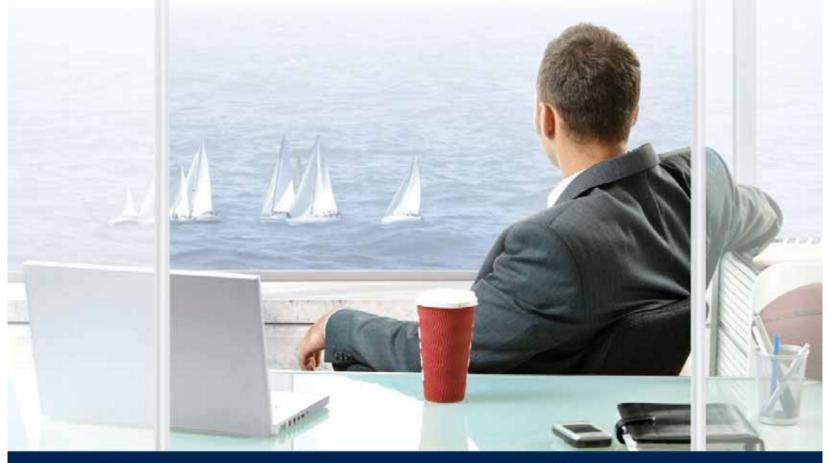
Laurenzi said operating procedure is to "safeguard" the samples at home until FedEx can ship the sample to the lab. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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Motor and battery

The 107-kilowatt (143-horsepower) motor directs its 184 pound-feet of torque to the front wheels for a maximum 134 km/h through a single-speed transmission.

The lithium-ion battery pack is located beneath and behind the rear seat that, due to its bulk, cuts down on the hatchback's available stowage space while adding significant heft.

Cabin

The cabin features considerable advanced technology. There's a special version of the MyFord Touch information system that includes battery-charging state, expected remaining range and how much energy is being consumed by the vehicle's accessories.

There's more. At the end of every trip, the display screen shows total distance driven and the additional distance gained through regenerative braking. Put simply, when you brake, the battery pack is being

Range

To maintain the battery pack at its optimum operating temperature, Ford uses a liquid heating and cooling system to help the car deliver on its 160-kilometre-range claim maximum range, not average — but that will still require a light touch of the pedal and avoiding excessive use of electrical accessories such as the climate control.

And who knows what kind of range you'll get in a good old-fashioned Canadian winter.







▶ There's no explanation why the battery pack is in the back and the charge port is at the front, other than it's close to the driver's door and in plain sight.

MALCOLM GUNN DRIVE@METRONEWS.CA WHEELBASE MEDIA

Trading fossil-fuel fill-ups for electrical current flowdeveloped the new Focus ing from a charging station is still a new idea, but Ford is providing a way for you to get in on the ground floor

Unlike the Chevrolet Volt, Nissan Leaf and Mitsubishi iMiEV that are all proprietary designs, Ford Focusing on an electric

Electric using the existing Focus platform and body, although a distinctive nose and a charging port door on the driver's-side front fender are dead giveaways as to the car's unique propulsion. And it's that system moreover, the way it charges - that makes the Focus Electric unique.

Ford claims that a full charge will require three to four hours, or about half the time required by the benchmark Nissan Leaf.

This is due to circuitry designed for higher throughput as opposed to significant differences in battery design. Three hours is a relatively short amount of time that also requires a 240-volt charging station. Otherwise, you can count on a lengthy 18-20 hours from a standard 120-volt outlet using a cord that's included, which is clearly not

the way to go for busy or impatient people. A quick calculation puts the cost of driving 100 kilometres at about \$2.

That's about half of what even the best hybrid can do and there's no tailpipe emissions at all with the Focus Electric.





Used Aveo will appeal mostly on price

SECOND GFAR



The Chevrolet Aveo has been given the axe to clear the way for the new Chevrolet Sonic — meaning the automaker's former entry-level model is now fully into the used vehicle marketplace.

The last generation Aveo was on sale from 2004 to 2011 and available in hatchback or sedan variants. Look for features like folding rear seats, remote access, power accessories and cruise control

Note that the LS models were more basic, while LT models were more loaded.



Engine

All Aveo models got a 1.6-litre, 103-horsepower four-cylinder driving the front wheels via a four-speed automatic or five-speed manual.

What owners like

Most Aveo owners speak highly about surprising levels of interior roominess, low operating costs, relative fuel efficiency and responsive steering.

What owners

dislike

Cheap interior trim, a light or "flimsy" feel, soft suspension, cupholder size and placement, and easily-chipped paint round out the most common complaints.

Common issues

Numerous instances of broken timing belts have been reported by owners online — so be sure the timing belt on the model you're considering isn't overdue for a change. If it snaps and fails while you're driving, your trip will stop dead in its tracks. A timing belt is a part that needs to be changed preemptively ahead of failure to keep your engine running. Make sure the automatic transmission is easy to shift into and out of gear, too.

Verdict

Aveo is far from the most reliable compact car in its segment — though relatively inexpensive repairs, cheap operating costs and low resale values will make it an affordable option worth considering for low-mileage drivers.



Easing the 'anxiety' of driving electric cars

While electric vehicles may hold a promise of a gasoline-free future, they are not without their drawbacks, including the need to schedule their battery recharging. A new smartphone application being developed by researchers at the University of Windsor could take much of the hassle out of that.

Not only does the app monitor the car's battery charge, but it will search out charging stations and even work with your datebook to optimize your driving schedule.

"We wanted to take out some of the driver's anxiety," says Kemal Tepe, an associate professor and director of the university's Wireless Communications and Information Processing Lab.

"We tell you how far you can go with this vehicle in the current state of the charge, but the uniqueness of the application is to match the charging schedule to your

DRIVING FORCE

JIL McINTOSH

DRIVE@METRONEWS.CA

calendar."

Using the driver's appointments entered into the smartphone's calendar, and with the battery charge information from the car, the app will map out the destinations, offering the most efficient routes or even suggesting rescheduling appointments around the car's charging requirements.

"This application combines several applications and information and then processes it," Tepe says.

"Let's say you come to work and have an urgent meeting in the afternoon. You enter it into your schedule, which ties it into the smartphone, and the application will grab this information and tell you if it has enough charge to get there, or not

enough."

Tepe says the app could be optimized to the electrical grid to identify the least-expensive charging times.

While it would prioritize lower-cost electricity, it would also monitor upcoming appointments and, if necessary, start when needed to have the battery charged by the time the driver has to leave.

The app could also reduce the number of times the car is plugged in.

"You have a limited number of charging cycles," Tepe says, adding that it could be up to 2,000 times, "but every time you charge it, you are counting down."

Even though you may stop for lunch next to a charging station, "the app will tell you that you can make one day's trips on that charge, so you don't need to waste one of those charging opportunities and it will tell you to skip the charge," he says.



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THERE'S THE GARAGE... WHERE'S THE CAR?

AUTO PILOT



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e're used vehicles being persona non grata at certain venues, like pedestrian parks, islands, nature reserves, etc. But actual garages?

Yes, that's right. More and more homeowners are opting to make their garages a car-free zone.

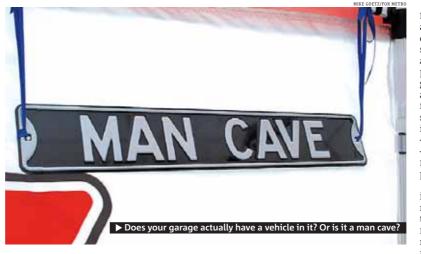
Jordan Oliveira of Canadian Tire broke the news to me this past week.

Oliveira is Canadian Tire's point man for storage solutions, and noted that the company has been aware of this trend for a while, and has increasingly been introducing more storage and "man cave" products to Canadian Tire's garageorientated line-up.

He said that high housing prices, combined with many baby boomers downsizing their abodes, have conspired to make useable floor space harder to come by in most homes, and more at a premium.

Too premium, I guess, for something like a 1994 Dodge Cavalier. Let it sleep in the rain and the snow. I need to store my collection of Star Wars memorabilia.

And when the guys come around, they find it more comfortable and relaxing in the garage, than



the pretty, front "sitting" room — the one with all those small, accent pillows

I kind of did a double take when Jordan first mentioned the car banishment trend, but really shouldn't have even batted an eve.

For one thing, the last time I was in my neighbour Tony's garage, I did notice a distinct lack of Acura MDX, and a distinct abundance of other things, like drum kit, bass guitar and amplifier, small

fridge, dart board, stools and one old sofa, iPod dock with four large speakers, and a fake fish aquarium (the kind you plug in to make the background go around and around, while the fish stay fixed forever in time and space). I guess just repeating the reality in my head — No cars! In the garage! - was too paradoxical for my brain to handle at that particular moment.

I greatly enjoy my time in Tony's garage, so I'm not suggesting we reverse this trend, only that we never forget the car's pioneering role in the creation of the garage.

More cars are parked out in the cold now, but they're entirely the reason why we now have a cool space at our disposal, that is accent-pillow free.

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Crossword

- 1 Syringe, for short
- 5 TiVo, for example 8 iPhone downloads

12

15

18

36

45 46

54

- 12 Really long time
- 13 Midafternoon. on
- a sundial 14 Crooner Jerry
- 15 Firm adherent to a
- cause 17 Ontario neighbor
- 18 Scabbard
- 19 Stocking holder
- 21 Apiece 22 Kill
- 23 Swiss mountain
- 26 Treasure seeker's
- aid
- 28 Spry 31 Water vessel
- 33 "Golly!"
- 35 Oklahoma city 36 Hannah Montana
- portraver Milev
- 38 Pismire
- 40 Bygone Pontiac
- muscle car
- 41 Walked (on) 43 Stomach
- 45 Actress Headly
- 47 Frightened
- 51 Continental coin
- 52 Bit 54 Have coming
- 55 Peculiai
- 56 Reedy
- 57 Seeks restitution 58 Pirouette pivot
- 59 Spud's buds

Down

- 1 Chance occurrences
- 4 Available
- 5 Symbol of limpness
- 2 "Why not?"
- 3 Sweat outlet 29 Torched

- 6 By way of
- 7 "Lord of the --' 8 Par
- 9 Whooping it up
- 10 Ballet bend 11 Prognosticator
- 16 Detail
- 20 Chicken kina 23 "The View" net-
- work 24 Myrna of Holly-
- wood
- 25 Path-filled garden 27 Shooter ammo
- 30 Tokyo's old name 32 Strong likes

34 Fencing call 37 Bart, to Homer

13

33

42

52 53

55

58

16

26

32

- 39 Clump of grass
- 42 Station
- 44 Hackneyed 45 The Bee -
- 46 Hawaiian feast
- 48 Needing liniment 49 Nastase of tennis
- lore
- 50 Lairs
- 53 Fuss

➤ Yeterday's answer

W	Α	L	L		٧	Ε	G		С	L	Α	Р
Α	L	1	Α		-	D	Α		Α	Т	D	Е
٧	Α	М	Р	Τ	R	Ε	S		Μ	Ε	Α	Ν
Е	R	Ε		М	Ε	N		S	Ρ	U	R	Z
			ø	כ	0		D	Е	ш			
В	0	G	U	S		Ρ	R	Α	-	S	Е	D
Α	R	1	Α		J	0	Υ		R	0	М	Е
Т	Α	Ν	G	L	Ε	D		В	Ε	L	0	Σ
			М	Α	Т		Н	R	S			
R	Ε	М	Τ	Х		D	U	0		Ε	М	С
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E	S	Ν	Ε		Α	R	О		٧	-	S	Е
Α	Υ	Ε	s		М	Α	Τ		Υ	Е	Α	R

Sudoku

10 111

29 30

48 49 50

14

17

35

44

56

59

40

19 20

34

43

47

38

28

5			3	2			9
4	7	1			3	2	8
		2	9	3	7		
3							2
		9	4	5	6		
9	2	6			8	7	4
1			8	7			5
			•				

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and

Yesterday's answer ▶

	8							
	1	3	7	8	5	9	6	2
2	6	5	9	1	4	8	3	7
1	3	2	4	5	7	6	9	8
6					8			
8	5	9	6	2	1	7	4	3
7	9				3			
3	4	6	1	7	2	5	8	9
5	2		8	6	9	3	7	4

Send a

You can now post your kiss, and read even more kisses, at metronews.ca/kiss.

my everlasting love, prince charming, My sweet darling, Ti amo, Je t'aime, Wo Ai Ni, I love you always, forever and ever. Mi Manchi every day and every night! Sweetheart, take good care of yourself, just a kiss on yr sweet lips my love, you are my everything, you are my destiny... See you always in my dreams tonite and every nite... YOUR ETERNAL LOVE. STRONG N FAITHFUL PRINCESS

boy at the salad bar Hey you! That's right. I don't even know your name but i've been admiring you from a far :(I work in the store across from yours, so please look over sometime and just say hi!:) GIRL NEXT DOOR

Honeypot To my brand new husband, I love you and I am so happy to be on this wonderful journey with you. Thank you for everything. HONEY BALL





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Today's horoscope

TAries March 21-April 20

Today's good news will make you feel a lot better about your financial situation. Always be positive.

▼ Taurus April 21-May 21 What happens today will inspire

you to give a project you have been on the verge of ending another go. It can be made to work.

II Gemini May 22-June 21 What you see or hear today will remind you that compared to other

people, you are quite lucky.

Gancer June 22-July 22

Do you believe in yourself? The only thing that is holding you back, Cancer, is the idiotic idea that you are not good enough. You are.

Ω Leo July 23-Aug.23

There's no point trying to predict how people are going to act because they are on a completely different wavelength to you.

M Virgo Aug. 24- Sept. 22

You seem very positive in your outlook at the moment, which is good, but you still need to back it up with hard work.

△ Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 23

Good news regarding your money situation will cheer you up, but it's only a short-term development.

M Scorpio Oct. 24-Nov. 22

Listen to what friends have to tell you today, even if it isn't what you were hoping to hear.

21 Do something out of the ordinary today, something even your

り Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 20 one else has missed. Act quickly

Aquarius Jan. 21-Feb. 18 News from afar may not exactly delight you but neither is it the end of the world. Keep things in perspec-

person in your life over the next

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, visit metronews.ca **₹ Sagittarius** Nov. 23-Dec.

friends think is outrageous.

You will see something that everyand turn it to your advantage.

tive and look for ways to benefit.

H Pisces Feb. 19-March 20 Someone you meet on your travels could become the most important few months. SALLY BROMPTON





You write it!

Write a funny caption for the image above and send it to play@metronews.ca the winning caption will be published in Wednesday's

MIN;

Metro.

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HIGHLIGHTS

- Step-by-step approach makes learning guitar easy
- Instructor holds a degree in classical guitar from Dalhousie University
- Level 1 is for absolute beginners; Level 2 is for those with a bit more experience - call to find out which class is best for you

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HIGHLIGHTS

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- Instructor holds a degree in classical guitar from Dalhousie University
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Stock # 12,517

Was \$44,490 Now \$40,990

Stock # 12200771

Was \$52,190 Now \$41,090

POULT INTO N

Was \$87,760 Now \$52,990

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Bluca # 12HC1678

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2012 Jeep Gr. Cherokee Limited 4X4

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Stock # 12JU4401

Was \$32,790 Now \$23,590

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